of its sessions', to a Committee of Elders and to the Administration. 648
The Baltic Barons, on the other hand, declared themselves the sole 186
authorized representatives of the people, proclaimed the definite 642
separation of Estonia from Russia, and appealed to Germany for military aid against the Bolsheviks.

The immediate consequence of the Proclamation of November 28 [669]
was the temporary arrest of M. Paets and the dispersal of the National Council by the Bolsheviks, who, however, allowed the elections to the Constituent Assembly to take place during January 1918, in the hope of getting a majority of votes for their own candidates. When it became clear that they would not do so, a civil war broke out which was only ended by the arrival of the German armies in February. On February 24, the single day left to them between the flight of the Bolsheviks and the coming of the Germans, the Committee of Elders seized the opportunity to promulgate a manifesto reaffirming Estonia's independence as a Republican State, defining her frontiers, and instituting a Provisional Government under M. Paets. The German occupation during the following months postponed all further constitutional development until after the Armistice of November 11, 1918.

Latvia. The history of the Lettish nationalist movement up to the 648
signature of the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk in March 1918 ran a some- 186
what similar course, and thereafter suffered a similar temporary 668
eclipse until the Armistice was signed; for, although the southern half of what is now Latvia, with the exception of Latgale, was from the summer of 1915 onwards under German occupation, Lettish nationalists in the northern half and in Petrograd were able to conduct negotiations with the Imperial and Provisional Governments in Russia, and later to defy the Bolshevik authorities in much the same way as did the Estonian leaders, though with rather less success.

Towards the end of the Imperialist régime, when half the inhabi- [675]
tants of Courland were refugees in Russia, the Lettish deputies of the Duma, together with representatives of the exiled Letts, among them J. Čakste and Z. A. Meierovics, formed a Latvian Refugees' Committee in Petrograd, which tried to obtain promises of autonomy and reform from the Government. When the Provisional Government assumed authority in the spring of 1917, they were urged to establish an autonomous administrative district consisting of southern Livonia, Courland, and parts of Vitebsk; less amenable to Lettish than to Estonian entreaties, they did, however, issue decrees appointing new and more democratic-minded governors and permitting elections to local government bodies in the unoccupied districts.

In Latvia, as in Estonia, the Bolshevik Revolution precipitated

For a short time Estonian troops supported General Yudenich's north-western corps of the White Russian Army, assisting on May 25 in the capture of Pskov. Since, however, both he and Admiral Kolchak were absolutely opposed to the recognition of the independent Republics, the Estonians withdrew their troops during the Bolshevik counter-offensive and recapture of Pskov in August. Thereupon the Allies sent a British general to Tallinn on August 10 to compel Yudenich to form a 'North-western Government' and sign a treaty with the Estonians. After the failure of Yudenich's second offensive in October, when his troops actually reached the suburbs of Petrograd, he retired once more into Estonia, and his army was finally dispersed. 648 721

In Latvia, where an army had been organized under Colonel Kalpaks, and later under General Balodis, reinforced by the German-Baltic *Landeswehr*, a new situation was created in February 1919 by the arrival of the German commander, General von der Goltz, ostensibly in accordance with the terms of the Armistice, but actually with the intention of coming to an understanding with the White Russian armies, driving out the Bolsheviks, and finally restoring German control over the Baltic States. With his assistance the German Balts in Latvia carried out a *coup d'état* at Liepāja, arrested the Latvian Government on April 16, and set up a new Government with a Latvian Pastor, M. A. Niedra, as its nominal head. Von der Goltz then proceeded northwards, and with the aid of the Latvian troops, who saw that the first necessity was to drive out the Bolsheviks, recaptured Riga on May 23 and drove the Red Armies to the frontier. A realignment of troops now took place; the Latvian and Estonian national forces combined to clear Livonia of Bolshevik troops, then turned on von der Goltz and the German Balts, defeated them at Cēsis (Wenden) on June 21, and drove them out of Northern Latvia. [669]

Intervention by the Allied Powers. Perceiving at last the danger of relying on Germany to carry out the terms of the Armistice in the Baltic States, the Allied Powers decided on May 23, 1919, to send an Allied Military Mission, under General Sir Hubert Gough, to deal with the local German command. They had already sent Notes on April 23 and May 4 demanding the reinstatement of the Latvian Government, and, on June 18, Marshal Foch ordered the Germans to stop all farther advance towards Estonia and to begin immediate evacuation of the Baltic region. As a result of Allied intervention, von der Goltz was forced to evacuate Riga and sign an armistice on July 3, and four days later the Latvian Government was reinstated there. Hitherto, all the protests of the Allied Powers had been disregarded by the German military authorities, but, when a further 648